



VISION

Geographic Information with all its aspects should become a fully integrated component of the European knowledge-based society

MISSION

In order to ensure good governance, economic and social development, environmental protection and sustainability, and informed public participation, the mission is to maximise the availability and effective use of GI throughout Europe

This will require EUROGI to stimulate, encourage and support the development and effective use of GI and relevant technologies, and to act as the voice for the European community

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PPP4SDI - EU INDUSTRY DAY PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURES IN THE CONTEXT OF E-GOVERNMENT

December 6-7, 2007 - Rome, Italy
University Roma - La Sapienza, Piazza Borghese, 9

EUROGI will be holding a seminar to explore ways in which Private-Public Partnerships (PPP) can assist in building the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) across Europe. The event is supported by the European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC) - the technical coordinator of INSPIRE. This European SDI is supporting Community environmental policies and shall be built upon SDIs established and operated by the Member States. There is a general tendency to integrate national SDIs in e-Government programmes.

The seminar programme will focus on setting the context within which PPPs can help to build SDIs. It will also provide practical examples of PPPs in the spatial data and services fields and will highlight the many new and exciting opportunities which are becoming available in both the public and private sectors.

A **Public-Private Partnership** (PPP) is a contractual agreement between a public agency (national, regional or local) and a private sector entity. Through a PPP the skills and assets of each sector (public and private) are shared with the view to delivering a service, product or facility for the use of the general public. In addition to the sharing of resources, each party shares in the risks and rewards associated with the joint project. There are critical components in any successful PPP. While there is no set formula or absolute foolproof technique in setting up or running a successful PPP, a number of 'success factors' can be identified.

- A successful partnership can result only if there is commitment from "the top".
- It is essential from the very outset that the outcomes or products must be clearly understood and defined.
- Once a partnership has been established, it is important that both parties remain actively involved throughout the project.
- In cases where the private partner provides the initial capital funds, there must be a means of repayment of this investment.
- More people will be affected by a partnership than just the public officials and the private-sector partner. Where possible the interests of these other stakeholders need to be factored into the PPP.
- Public procurement processes need to use appropriate criteria for the selection of partners.

These and other best practice PPP features will be discussed at the seminar.

The term **Spatial Data Infrastructure** (SDI) is often used to denote the relevant technologies, policies, institutional and other arrangements that facilitate the availability of and access to spatial data. A SDI provides a basis for spatial data discovery, evaluation, download and application for users and providers within all levels of government, the commercial sector, the non-profit sector, academia and the general public. The word infrastructure is used to promote the concept of a reliable, supporting environment, analogous to a road or telecommunications network. Spatial data infrastructures facilitate access to geographically related information using a set of standard practices, protocols, and specifications. SDIs are delivered electronically via the Internet. Currently over 140 countries are committed to developing SDIs.

The INSPIRE Directive entered into force in May 2007 and will be followed by implementing rules which concern the main components of INSPIRE. These include: metadata, key spatial data themes and services, network services and technologies, agreements on sharing and access, reporting and monitoring mechanisms.

As a result the SDIs created by the EU Member States shall be compatible and usable in a Community context and cross borders. The target users of INSPIRE include policy-makers, planners, managers and service delivery agencies at European, national and local level.



WHAT DOES EUROGI ACHIEVE?

EUROGI has a unique role in representing the GI community throughout Europe.

EUROGI gives all the nations of Europe a focal point at which to share experiences and opinions in the field and to make them available to public and private organisations alike.

EUROGI is a truly European organisation. Its members come from across the whole of Europe, including the European Union (EU) and EFTA.

Through the support and involvement of its members, the role of EUROGI is exploited for their benefit.

EUROGI:

- Raises awareness of GI.
- Provides its members with accurate and timely information on European opportunities as well as consolidated views on policies affecting GI.
- Improves knowledge sharing between nations by exchanging experiences and best practices.
- Encourages greater use of GI in Europe by promoting availability, removing constraints and promoting standards.
- Supports GI standards by cooperating with international standardisation organisations in the GI field.
- Improves the exchange of views and understanding between European nations and the EC by being a recognised contact point for EC Directorates and other European and international organisations.
- Is a lobbyist. Through contacts with European officials (EC and MEP), EUROGI's lobbying has an impact on the thinking of politicians and other decision-makers.
- Participates in pan-European projects funded by the EC and other organisations, those usually requiring multinational participation. EUROGI is a valued participant of projects.
- Is an expert witness. EUROGI draws on the expertise of its members and brings together specialists.

In short, EUROGI is the:

- European Forum for GI matters
- Facilitator for GI discussions
- Lobbyist for GI
- Catalyst for relevant topics
- Supporter of national GI associations

E-government refers to governance processes in which Information and Communications Technology (ICT) play an active and significant role in the exchange of information and services with citizens, (Government-to-Citizen or G2C), businesses, (Government-to-Business or G2B) and other arms of government (Government-to-Government or G2G).

The most important anticipated benefits of e-government include an improved quality of existing government provided products and services, the provision of new services and products, enhanced and easier participation by people in the choice and provision of government products and services which more closely fit their needs.

PPP4SDI in the context of e-Government: INSPIRE will increasingly play an extremely relevant role in promoting the widespread adoption of spatial data and will become an integral part of e-government services and processes. PPPs represent new opportunities to provide both spatial data and services (viewing, delivering, manipulating and analysing spatial data) into SDIs at national, regional and local levels, and in so doing will assist in the cost effective roll out of INSPIRE.

The seminar will investigate models and possibilities for allowing PPP to effectively develop SDI either at local, regional, national, trans-national and European levels, in the context of e-government processes, specifically focusing on the economics of SDI through effective participation of private sector companies.

The **Programme** will feature presentations from EUROGI, JRC and keynote speakers, as well as the perspectives from the private sector and the national approaches to be delivered by the members of EUROGI. Some relevant cases will also be presented and a large open debate is foreseen. The outcomes of the seminar will be published on the first half of 2008.

REGISTRATION FORM

EUROGI is pleased to invite you for attending the EU Industry Day on PPP4SDI in Rome. The participation is open and free of charge.

Since the number of attendees is limited, please be so kind to fill the Registration Form below and return it to the Secretariat of EUROGI no later than November 30, 2007.

Title:		Surname:	
First Name:			
Organisation:			
Address:			
e-mail:		Tel: +	Fax: +

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Timetable:

December 6, 2007:
 14:00 - 14:30 Registration
 14:30 - 17:30 Presentations and debate
 December 7, 2007:
 09:00 - 12:30 Presentations and debate
 14:00 - 16:30 Roundtable
 16:30 - 17:00 Wrap up and Closing

NOTE:

You are welcome to register by E-mail. Please send the above detailed information to the secretariat and state **[PPP4SDI Registration]** in the Subject box of your message.

Further information will soon be available at the EUROGI website: www.eurogi.org

ACCOMODATION:

You are kindly requested to take care of your own accommodation.

For enquiries about accommodation and reservations you are welcome to contact Mr. Enrico Patara by e-mail at spartacusrome@hotmail.com or by phone at +39-06-683-2542 or +39-348-073-6112.